

3/8/10 PH - Item #8



**ARCOLA-PLEASANT VALLEY
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

5 March 2010

**APVVFD Statement
Support for Future Site for Fire Station: Stoneridge**

Supervisor Miller:

On the night of 8 March the volunteers of APVVFD will be conducting our business meeting, necessary to assure continued service to our community. As a result I regret that I will be unable to attend the meeting of the Board of Supervisors wherein presentations by developer Van Metre and Stoneridge community members will take place in support of a proposal that would include building a future fire station within the Stoneridge community.

Approval of a Stoneridge fire station makes sense. We, the APVVFD volunteers, wanted to provide this statement of support for the approval of this proposal. While the current Service Plan does not necessarily accommodate for a station at that particular site at this time, ongoing development trends and economic pressures would indicate that the Stoneridge community will continue to need and deserve rapid access to essential emergency services. The pace of growth has slowed yet continues to focus development along the Route 50 corridor. Our home site on Gum Spring Road will soon cease operational support to the County, moving operations to Brambleton. A planned Kirkpatrick Farms fire station may well be long delayed and is further sited far south of Route 50, near the Prince William County line – currently well removed from the predominant population/commercial development base of the area. Meanwhile needs for Stoneridge emergency services will continue.

Understanding the economic burdens that the County faces, APVVFD is working now to develop a future volunteer force that will help support a Stoneridge station with 12/7 staffing. This should not be considered an expansion of our service area; rather it is a continuation of support to the community that has long fallen within our first-due area of responsibility. Continued sub-division of APVVFD/Company 9's first due coverage should in no way limit volunteer opportunities to serve the community in which we live.

We continue to work with and support our Loudoun County Fire & Rescue department. We are working hard with Chf Pozzo's staff and with Ms Hunter of Loudoun County Department of Construction and Waste Management to carefully plan for the infrastructure needs at the Brambleton site. While so doing, our desire to continue to serve our broader community is ever present. We ask that you support the proposed Stoneridge development plan to include a future fire station within the community. Thank you for your ongoing support for volunteer service within our community.

/s/

Rebecca McKenna
President

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